



Lavinia Roberts

BIG DOG PUBLISHING

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P.O. Box 1401

Rapid City, SD 57709

*To Dr. Anne Fletcher,
educator, scholar, mentor, and inspiration.*

*May this play engender a love of theatre
with humor, warmth, and wit
in the spirit of Dr. Fletcher's teaching.*

Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network

COMEDY. Welcome to the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network, the television channel for spellbinding sales and bewitching bargains! Join hosts Snow White and Rose Red as they showcase products designed to make you live happily ever after. Cinderella presents her new all-purpose cleaner, an easy way to keep your cave, castle, or cottage clean. Puss in Boots's new fashionable footwear collection will make anyone feel like a fairy princess. Rapunzel reveals her new hair care line, definitely a *curl's* best friend. Sponsors include the Princess and the Pea Mattress Outlet, Fairy Godmother's Transport Dealership (50% off brooms and flying carpets), Wortilda the Witch's World-Class Cauldron Emporium, the Pied Piper's Pet Palace (buy one rat, get 100 free!), Three Little Pigs Homeowners Insurance, and Baby Bear's Breakfast Buffet where the porridge is never too hot or too cold. But when a guest falls into an enchanted sleep and another guest turns into a frog, Snow White and Rose Red wonder if their new stage manager may not be who she appears to be. Easy to stage.

Performance Time: Approximately 20-30 minutes.

Characters

(3 M, 14 F, 8 flexible, opt. extras)

(Doubling possible. With tripling: 1 M, 7 F, 1 flexible)

SNOW WHITE: Co-host of the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network; female.

ROSE RED: Co-host of the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network; female.

PRINCESS AND THE PEA: Princess and spokesperson for the Princess and the Pea Mattress Outlet; wears a princess dress; female.

BIG BAD WOLF: Wolf who has volunteered to be the stage manager; disguised as a granny; wears a nightgown over a wolf costume and a nightcap over his wolf ears; male.

CINDERELLA: Spokesperson for Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner; female.

STEPSISTER 1, 2: Cinderella's rude, demanding stepsisters; female.

FAIRY GODMOTHER: A fairy godmother and spokesperson for Fairy Godmother's Transport Dealership; female.

PUSS IN BOOTS: A classy, chic cat promoting a new fashionable shoe collection; flexible.

PRINCESS 1, 2, 3: Princesses who model Puss in Boot's shoes; female.

DWARF 1, 2: Security guards for the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network; flexible.

WORTILDA: Wicked witch and spokesperson for Wortilda the Witch's World-Class Cauldron Emporium; female.

EVIL ENCHANTRESS: Stage manager of the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network; Snow White's evil stepmother who is disguised as a mysterious stranger; wears a cloak over her evil queen costume; female.

RAPUNZEL: Pun-loving princess and spokesperson for Rapunzel's Ravishing Hair Care Line; female.

PIED PIPER: Musical rat catcher and the owner of Pied Piper's Pet Palace; flexible.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: A strange little man who is the spokesperson for the Spinning Wheel of Wealth; flexible.

BRIAR ROSE (aka "Sleeping Beauty"): Rumpelstiltskin's assistant, a tired princess under an enchanted sleep; female.

FIG 1, 2, 3: Three little pigs that sell Three Little Pigs Homeowners Insurance; flexible.

PRINCE CHARMING: Charming prince and spokesperson for Fairytale Fencing Equipment; male.

BABY BEAR: Bear promoting Baby Bear's Breakfast Buffet; flexible.

EXTRAS (opt.): Additional Dwarves, Mama Bear and Papa Bear could accompany Baby Bear, dancing Rats or other pets could accompany Pied Piper, dancing Fairies could accompany Fairy Godmother.

Options for Doubling

For the smallest possible cast (9 total), roles may be doubled/tripled as follows. Note: The roles of Rose Red and Snow White cannot be doubled.

BIG BAD WOLF/PIED PIPER/PRINCE CHARMING (male)

PUSS IN BOOTS/RUMPELSTILTSKIN/PIG 1 (flexible)

CINDERELLA/PIG 3/BABY BEAR (female)

PRINCESS 1/DWARF 1/RAPUNZEL (female)

PRINCESS AND THE PEA/FAIRY GODMOTHER/DWARF 2/SLEEPING BEAUTY (female)

STEPSISTER 1/PRINCESS 2/WORTILDA/PIG 2 (female)

STEPSISTER 2/PRINCESS 3/EVIL ENCHANTRESS (female)

Setting

A television studio, once upon a time

Set

TV studio. There is a table CS for merchandise.

Props

Spray bottle with a label that reads, "Cinderella's All-Purpose Cleaner"
Scrub brush
Pair of fashion boots
Pair of glittery heels or flats
Pair of pumps/heels
Granny nightcap, for Big Bad Wolf
Toy frog with a small crown on its head

Special Effects

Twinkling music (opt.), for Fairy Godmother's entrance
Lightning, sinister music or smoke (opt.), for Evil Enchantress's entrance

“Stage Managers
are essential
to a happily ever after.”

-Rose Red

Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network

(AT RISE: A television studio. There is a table CS. Snow White and Rose Red enter.)

SNOW WHITE: *(To audience.)* Welcome to the Happily-Ever-After Shopping Network, the television channel for spellbinding sales and bewitching bargains! I'm your fairest-of-them-all host, Snow White.

ROSE RED: *(To audience.)* And I'm your host, the ravishing Rose Red, and do we have some super-sweet sales for you! Before we share some of our delightful deals, let's hear a word from one of our sponsors...

(Princess and the Pea enters.)

PRINCESS AND THE PEA: *(To audience.)* Is your mattress too hard...or too soft? Are you looking for one that's just right? Come on down to the Princess and the Pea Mattress Outlet. We'll find a mattress you would be happy to take an enchanted sleep on for the next 100 years...guaranteed! All of our mattresses come with a green-vegetable-proof guarantee. Don't let a single pea or any other kind of pesky produce get in the way of a good night's sleep. Come on down to the Princess and the Pea Mattress Outlet! You don't need a fairy godmother to experience the magic of our mattresses! *(Exits.)*

SNOW WHITE: *(To Rose Red.)* Where is Little Red Riding Hood? Isn't she stage managing tonight?

ROSE RED: She could be stopping to smell the flowers, but don't worry, Snow White, a kindly old granny agreed to stage manage for us. *(Calls.)* Hey, Granny!

(Big Bad Wolf enters, disguised as a granny.)

BIG BAD WOLF: *(As Granny.)* Why, yes, dearie-kins?

ROSE RED: We're ready for our first guest! Send her out, please.

BIG BAD WOLF: *(As Granny.)* I'm always happy to assist a mouthwatering morsel such as yourself. *(Exits.)*

ROSE RED: *(To audience.)* Let's welcome our first guest! She's an expert on scrubbing, sweeping, and scouring! Let's give a warm welcome to the queen of clean, Cinderella! *(Calls.)* Come on out, Cinderella! *(Cinderella enters, holding a bottle of Cinderella's All-Purpose Cleaner.)* So, Cinderella, what wish come true do you have for us today?

CINDERELLA: Only the latest and greatest in cleaners: The Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner! The Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner is a quick and easy way to keep your cave, castle, or cottage clean.

SNOW WHITE: What about using the Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner on my stepmother's magic mirror?

CINDERELLA: The Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner is safe to use on magic mirrors, singing harps, genie lamps, and all other enchanted objects.

ROSE RED: What about our more potion-minded viewers? How does Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner handle really tough jobs like scrubbing curses from a cauldron?

CINDERELLA: The Cinderella All-Purpose Cleaner both disinfectants and deodorizes... *(Sprays some.)* ...giving your cauldron a deep-down, below-the-surface clean...leaving them spotless, sparkling, and curse-free, ready for your next poison or potion!

SNOW WHITE: *(Sniffs air.)* I'm really under the spell of that scent!

CINDERELLA: That's the light, refreshing scent of freshly picked pumpkins.

ROSE RED: Wow, I just want to go home and give my entire castle a decent scrub-down!

CINDERELLA: You don't need to do much scrubbing with Cinderella's All-Purpose Cleaner. It does the work for

you—as in literally—because if you call in now, we'll include a magic self-scrubbing brush! *(Pulls out a scrub brush.)* But this offer won't last as long as a pumpkin carriage! Call now!

(Stepsister 1, 2 enter.)

STEPSISTER 1: *(Shouts.)* Cinderella! Cinderella! You shiftless shirker! You lazy lout! Come home this instant! You still have the mending, the washing, and the ironing to do!

STEPSISTER 2: *(To Cinderella.)* You're so selfish...thinking only of yourself and not me and how I need you to give me a pedicure before tonight's ball! This is no way to treat your stepsister, you ungrateful wretch!

STEPSISTER 1: *(To Cinderella.)* I need you to shampoo and style my hair for tonight's ball, you miserable maid!

(Stepsister 1 grabs Cinderella by the arm.)

STEPSISTER 2: *(To Cinderella.)* No! I need you to primp and perfume my hair, you lazy lump!

(Stepsister 2 grabs Cinderella's other arm. For the following, Stepsister 1, 2 do a human tug-of-war with Cinderella in the middle. Stepsisters take turns tugging on Cinderella. Each time they yank on Cinderella, they say her name.)

STEPSISTER 1: Cinderella! Come with me!

STEPSISTER 2: Let go! She's mine!

(Finally, Cinderella is dragged offstage by Stepsister 1, 2.)

ROSE RED: *(To audience.)* That girl is in dire need of a fairy godmother.

SNOW WHITE: *(To audience.)* All right, viewers, call 1-800-HAPPILY-EVER-AFTER and order your Cinderella's All-Purpose Cleaner today!

ROSE RED: *(To audience.)* Remember, call before midnight, and we'll include a self-scrubbing brush!

SNOW WHITE: *(To audience.)* Don't miss out on this fantastic deal! Call now!

ROSE RED: *(To audience.)* Right! Well, we have some really bewitching products in store for you! Stay tuned!

SNOW WHITE: *(To audience.)* But, first, a word from one of our sponsors...

(Fairy Godmother twirls on. Twinkling music is heard, opt.)

FAIRY GODMOTHER: *(To audience.)* Are you looking for your next steed to ride out on to meet a dragon? Perhaps a pumpkin-turned-carriage is more your style? Maybe you're looking for a reliable swallow to fly off to a distant land and find the flower fairy prince of your dreams? Whatever vehicle you're looking for, come on down to Fairy Godmother's Transport Dealership. Currently, we have 50 percent off brooms and flying carpets with our "Up in the Air" clearance extravaganza! Come on down to Fairy Godmother's Transport Dealership! We'll make your dreams come true! Only remember to be home by midnight... *(Twirls offstage. Twinkling music is heard, opt.)*

ROSE RED: Right! *(Calls.)* Stage manager!

(Big Bad Wolf enters.)

BIG BAD WOLF: *(As Granny.)* Yes, dearie-kins. It is I, a delicious granny and your, er, stage...whatever.

SNOW WHITE: Please send out our next guest.

BIG BAD WOLF: *(As Granny.)* Of course, my tasty tidbit!

[END OF FREEVIEW]